Rough translation of anonymous report from Cantonese residents to The Council: 10/3/16.

CENTRAL REGISTRY. No. 2354 24.3.16

The writers, Cantonese residents, state that they have carried on business peacefully in the Settlement and among the bad characters dealt with, whether there were any Cantonese, the Police knew and could tell. However a curious person, Yang Cheng, was born in Kwangtung; he was a student in Austria & then in Germany where his general reputation was very bad and after dismissal or recalled to Peking he was proceeded against for adultery etc. He has been in the habit of creating rumours, having employed a number of loafers for the purpose of extortion or doing injury to others, as well as acting as German spy. Since re-appointment as Special Envoy for Foreign Affairs he has been more daring and has appointed private detectives named Ma Feng-ze, Li Meng, Tao Teh Ming & brothers Ling Shih Yoong & others for the purpose of deceiving & making false accusations against the Cantonese who are not going to remain reticent. Moreover, according to Settlement Regulations, why or private detectives of the Chinese official could not do anything ~~to~~ injurious to law-abiding native residents. A man Tang ~~who~~ resides in the French Settlement and he was arrested in Chapei the other day but when he was taken through the Settlements the Foreign Police appeared as blind and this is ridiculous. Yang Cheng's detective Tao Teh-ming is among them(?) being instigated by Yang Cheng - they create rumours for the purpose of doing meritorious service for rewards. They bribe the newspaper to make an explanation of the case etc. The Municipal Councils of the two Settlements are requested to take steps for the maintenance of peace & good order. They are informed the British Consul General has not been correctly informed and requested to assist him and so Yang Cheng has been very daring to do things in such a manner. The Council is requested to take action with a view to protection of the Municipality's good name &c.

PREPARED
CAPTAIN SUPT. OF POLICE.

ACTING